ational Application No PCT/EP 02/04231

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B29C45/50

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B29C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

Category •	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
χ	US 4 601 653 A (INABA YOSHIHARU) 22 July 1986 (1986-07-22) figures 1,2	1-4
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 103 (M-1221), 13 March 1992 (1992-03-13) & JP 03 277521 A (MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD), 9 December 1991 (1991-12-09) abstract	1-9
А	US 5 980 235 A (EPPICH STEFAN ET AL) 9 November 1999 (1999-11-09) the whole document/	1-9

"I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or *P* document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 02/09/2002 22 August 2002 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Kujat, C

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

International Application No PCT/EP 02/04231

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)} \\ \mbox{IPC 7} & \mbox{B29C} \end{array}$

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 August 2002

ה שנישלות בי

Name and mailing address of the ISA

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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X	US 4 601 653 A (INABA YOSHIHA 22 July 1986 (1986-07-22) figures 1,2	RU)	1-4
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A	US 5 980 235 A (EPPICH STEFAN 9 November 1999 (1999-11-09) the whole document	ET AL)	1-9
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X Furt	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family members are lister	d in annex.
"A" docum consi "E" earlier filing "L" docum which citatio "O" docum	ategories of cited documents: tent defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the international date ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another on or other special reason (as specified) ment referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means	 'T' later document published after the in or priority date and not in conflict wit cited to understand the principle or t invention 'X' document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered novel or canninvolve an inventive step when the cannot be considered to involve an document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an document is combined with one or ments, such combination being obvi in the art. 	h the application but heory underlying the claimed invention of the considered to locument is taken alone claimed invention inventive slep when the nore other such docu-

*&" document member of the same patent family

02/09/2002

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Date of mailing of the international search report

International Application No
PCT/EP 02/04231

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